COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

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COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS is intended to provide quick updates on issues of interest to members and affiliates of the Council of Ontario Universities (COU). It is produced regularly throughout the academic year. This issue covers the months of April, May and June 2007.

Paul Genest appointed new President of Council

Paul Chisholm Genest has been appointed the new President and CEO of the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) and will take office officially on July 1, 2007.

Prior to his appointment at COU, Dr. Genest served as Assistant Vice-President, Public Affairs and e-Services for Bell Canada, liaising with both the federal and provincial governments on sector policy issues including telecom policy, R&D, e-health, productivity and taxation. He also served as Director of Policy and Research for then-Prime Minister Jean Chrétien; Director General of Intergovernmental Affairs for Health Canada; and Senior Policy Advisor to two federal Ministers of Health.

In a press release announcing the appointment, outgoing Chair of Council Ross Paul said, "Ontario universities are delighted that Dr. Genest has accepted our offer to lead COU. He brings a wealth of experience in academia, government and business to the position, and has a proven track record with public policy and issues management at the highest levels with both the federal and provincial governments. Dr. Genest's inclusive consensus-building approach and strong issues management skills will serve our institutions well."

Dr. Genest received his honours BA in English and Philosophy from the University of Guelph, his MA in Philosophy from the University of Ottawa, and his MA and PhD in Philosophy from The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Genest has also completed the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School.

Dr. Genest succeeds Dr. Ian Clark, who will join the faculty of the University of Toronto.

McMaster University President Peter George becomes new Chair of Council

Peter George, President and Vice-Chancellor of McMaster University who was re-appointed for a third term in 2005, will be the new Chair of Council, effective July 1, 2007 for two years. Dr. George is a member of COU's Executive Committee and has participated in several task forces and working groups, including serving as Chair of the COU Quality and Financing Task Force which developed COU's submission to the Postsecondary Review in 2004-05.

Dr. George's long-standing relationship with McMaster University began in 1965, when he first joined th · faculty. He served as Associate Dean of Graduate Studies from 1974 to 1979, becoming Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences in 1980, a position he held until 1989. In 1991, he took leave from McMaster and assumed the position of President of COU. He returned to McMaster University as President in 1995, where he is also Professor of Economics.

Provincial posts have included Chair of the Council of Deans of Arts and Science of Ontario and member of the Ontario Council on University Affairs. He has authored two books as well as many articles that have appeared in refereed journals and other publications, and has delivered major scholarly papers around the world.

A member of numerous community and professional organizations, Dr. George has received several awards for innovative educational and community activities, including his appointment as a Member of the Order of Canada in 2000. He has been awarded several honorary degrees, and is an Honorary Professor for the University of Science and Technology Beijing (China).

Year-end Council meeting held at Wilfrid Laurier

At its year-end dinner held on May 31 in Waterloo, Ontario, President Bob Rosehart welcomed members of Council to Wilfrid Laurier University, the site of the final Council meeting for the academic year. Each year, one of Council's regularly scheduled meetings is held at a member institution. Council continued its tradition of extending best wishes to departing Executive Heads *(see following story)* and Academic Colleagues:

- Dr. Jean-Guy Godin, Dean, Faculty of Science, Carleton University;
- Dr. Lynne Phillips, Head, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Windsor;
- Dr. Alan Shepard, Associate Vice-President, Academic, University of Guelph, who has also served as a member of COU's Executive Committee and as co-Chair of the Academic Colleagues; and
- Dr. Bob Sharpe, Director, Waterloo-Laurier Graduate Program, Wilfrid Laurier University.

Special tributes were also paid to departing COU President Ian Clark and outgoing Chair of Council Ross Paul:

Ian Clark assumed the presidency of COU in 1998. Working with university presidents, Dr. Clark sought to improve the way in which Ontario universities interact with the provincial government. Dr. Clark's collaborative, problem-solving approach with key provincial ministries enabled Ontario universities to serve as partners not only in the development of initiatives and programs that advance postsecondary education, but also in the successful handing of the massive demand for undergraduate placements as a result of the double cohort.

Prior to his appointment at COU, Dr. Clark worked in the federal public service for 22 years in a variety of positions, including as Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet, Deputy Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, and Secretary of the Treasury Board. He subsequently served on the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund and became a partner in the accounting/consulting firm KPMG. He serves on several boards, is a Senior Fellow of Massey College, and is the author of numerous articles on governance and management.

A Rhodes Scholar, Dr. Clark received his honours BSc in Physics and Chemistry (1966) from the University of British Columbia, his PhD in Philosophy (1969) from the University of Oxford, and his MA in Public Policy (1972) from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. Dr. Clark will become a professor in the new School of Public Policy and Governance at the University of Toronto.

Ross Paul, President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Windsor and a long-standing member of the Executive Committee, is winding down his two-year term as Chair of Council.

A bilingual native of Montreal, Dr. Paul has teaching and administrative experience at all levels of education: as a teacher at Montreal's Lower Canada College; as Alumni Secretary and lecturer in the Graduate School of Education at Bishop's University in Lennoxville, Quebec; as Dean of Arts and Academic Dean at Montreal's Dawson College; and as Vice-President Academic for 10 years and Acting President for one year at Alberta's Athabasca University. Prior to his appointment at Windsor in 1998, Dr. Paul served as President of Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario, for almost seven years.

A graduate of Bishop's, McGill and London universities, Dr. Paul represents Canada's universities on the Canadian Automotive Partnership Council and is a member of the board of AUTO21, the network of centres of excellence for the automobile of the 21st century. He was the founding President of CREAD, a distance education consortium for all of the Americas, and as Vice-President (North America) for the International Council for Distance Education (ICDE). He has travelled and consulted widely on management and distance education issues.

Two Executive Heads leaving their posts at the end of June 2007

Lorna Marsden will be stepping down as President and Vice-Chancellor of York University after a decade in office in which the university has undergone astounding change and expansion.

Dr. Marsden's academic career began at the University of Toronto, where she taught economic sociology, led the graduate studies program in industrial relations at the Centre for Industrial Relations and chaired the Women's Studies Committee. She was made Chair of the Department of Sociology, Associate Dean of Graduate Students and, ultimately, Vice-Provost.

In 1984, then-Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau appointed Dr. Marsden to the Senate of Canada where she served on a number of committees as well as Vice-Chair of the Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association. In 1992, she resigned from the Senate to become President and Vice-Chancellor of Wilfrid Laurier University, a position she held for five years.

She has served as President of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women and is a founder of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research and worked with its research council and program on economic growth for many years.

Born in Sidney, B.C., Dr. Marsden began her undergraduate studies at Victoria College (now University of Victoria) and then moved east to receive a BA from the University of Toronto in 1968. She went on to Princeton University for graduate studies, earning a PhD in 1972.

Also stepping down upon completion of his second term is **Robert (Bob) Rosehart**, President and Vice-Chancellor of Wilfrid Laurier University, whose decade of leadership at Wilfrid Laurier, combined with his 13 years as President of Lakehead University, gives him the distinction of being the longest-serving university president in Ontario.

Born in Owen Sound, Ontario, Dr. Rosehart holds BASc, MASc and PhD degrees in Chemical Engineering from the University of Waterloo. He was a Professor of Chemical Engineering at Lakehead University during the 1970s, prior to beginning his administrative career as Dean of Lakehead's University Schools in 1977.

With interests in economic development, science and technology policy, and government policy, Dr. Rosehart has been called upon by both the federal and provincial governments to serve as an environmental and public policy consultant. Most recently, he has been appointed as the Northwestern Ontario Economic Facilitator to work with local people and businesses to help inspire a new generation of growth in the northwest. Although leaving the Office of the President, Dr. Rosehart will continue to work on behalf of Wilfrid Laurier in several capacities, including actively fundraising for the university.

John ApSimon assumes role of Interim Executive Director of OCGS

John ApSimon, former Executive Director of the Canada Research Chairs program and Professor Emeritus at Carleton University, will assume the role of Interim Executive Director of the Ontario Council on Graduate Studies (OCGS), effective July 1, 2007. Dr. ApSimon takes the helm at a critical juncture in the life of OCGS, which is undergoing the second part of a comprehensive review of its practices and procedures.

Dr. ApSimon's career spans some 38 years at Carleton University, where he trained more than 70 graduate students and postdoctoral fellows and held progressively responsible positions, including Dean of Graduate Studies and, subsequently, Vice-President (Research and External).

Dr. ApSimon serves on the advisory boards of the National Research Council (NRC) Institute of Marine Biosciences, the NRC Institute of Biological Sciences and the Meteorological Service of Canada. He is a former Chair of the Ottawa Life Sciences Council, and a founding board member of Vitesse Reskilling Canada Inc., an organization dedicated to training college and university graduates to meet industry requirements.

A fond farewell to departing members of the COU Secretariat

Two senior managers will be leaving the COU Secretariat on June 30, 2007:

- David Leyton-Brown, after eight years of service as Executive Director of the Ontario Council of Graduate Studies, is returning to his faculty position at York University. In addition to his work with OCGS, Dr. Leyton-Brown has supported the work of the Ontario Council of Academic Vice-Presidents and the Ontario Council on University Research, and provided advice on a wide variety of issues, including peer-reviewed processes for initiatives such as the Ontario Research Chairs and the David C. Smith Award.

- Jan Donio, who has served as Executive Director of Corporate and Information Services since 2005, will be winding down her responsibilities at COU, where she has been working part-time since accepting the position of Vice-President, Information Systems and Operational Change Management at the United Way of Greater Toronto in February. During the last few months, Dr. Donio, who had joined COU's Office for Partnerships for Advanced Skills in 2000, has continued to work as Treasurer of COU in addition to overseeing key organizational projects including the technology requirements identified in a review of OCGS.

COU affiliates host meetings on a range of postsecondary issues

- **Ontario Council on University Research**

On April 26, 2007, the Ontario Council on University Research (OCUR), representing the vice-presidents, research or equivalent at Ontario universities, held a second general meeting in Ottawa for the 2006-07 term. The focus of the meeting was the anticipated release of the federal government's new science and technology strategy (which was later announced on May 17, 2007). In December 2006, OCUR members had participated in a meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Research and Innovation and sent a follow-up document in response to the government's objective of developing a provincial strategy.

- **Ontario Council on Academic Vice-Presidents**

On May 3 and 4, 2007, Trent University was the site of the final meeting of the Ontario Council of Academic Vice-Presidents (OCAV) for the academic year. Discussion topics included the status of the undergraduate program review audits, an update on several teaching and learning initiatives implemented to enhance the quality of the student learning experience; and a review of the three international student exchange programs currently underway with Germany, France and India. Members also spent a considerable amount of time discussing proposed revisions to the OCAV constitution to reflect relationships with those COU affiliates that will begin reporting to OCAV. The proposed revisions are in response to recommendations resulting from a review of COU committees and affiliates that was undertaken by Dr. Richard Van Loon, former Chair of Council and President of Carleton University.

- **Council of Senior Administrative Officers**

On May 29 and 30, 2007, the Council of Senior Administrative Officers (CSAO), composed of vice-presidents of finance and administration, met and discussed a number of issues including capital funding for graduate expansion; ways to improve campus security; the status of the University Health Insurance Plan for international students; and the university sector's response to the Ontario government's review of the *Pensions Benefits Act*. Held at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario, the meeting was attended by Janet Mason, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, and Tony Rockingham, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Energy.

- **Council on University Planning and Analysis**

On June 20 to 22, 2007, the Council on University Planning and Analysis (CUPA) hosted its annual conference at the University of Windsor, with this year's theme being "The Changing Post-Secondary Environment: Looking to the Future" and its focus on surveys. Dr. Ken Norrie, Vice-President (Research) of the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario (HEQCO), gave the keynote address on HEQCO's Research Strategy, and Dr. Jillian Kinzie, Associate Director of the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) Institute, discussed how NSSE enables participating institutions to assess educational effectiveness and enrich student learning.

Coming soon on COU's website: three annual publications

- ***Highlights from the Survey of 2004 Ontario University Graduates***

This document highlights the results of a survey that examines employment experiences, earnings and skills matching of students six month and two years after they graduated from Ontario university undergraduate programs in 2004. The survey was conducted by the Ontario Universities' Application Centre from mid-March 2007 to mid-June 2007 on behalf of COU under a contract with the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.

- ***Ontario Universities' Facilities Condition Assessment Program***

The 2007 edition of this report provides an analysis of the findings of the universities' comprehensive facilities audit program, which is overseen by the Joint Task Force of the Council of Senior Administrative Officers and the Ontario Association of Physical Plant Administrators. Using the most current data (2006), the program assesses the physical condition of buildings at Ontario universities by evaluating deferred maintenance and adaptation renovation deficiencies – the major repairs and replacements to buildings, equipment and infrastructure that have been deferred to a future budget cycle.

- ***Facts & Figures: A Compendium of Statistics on Ontario Universities***

The 2007 edition of this resource publication provides aggregate statistical and graphical information on Ontario's population and university-related topics such as applicants/registrants, students, faculty and staff, finances and physical facilities.

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